
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES TO MAKE APPROPRIATE
EXEMPTIONS FOR GRANDPARENTS CARING FOR GRANDCHILDREN TO
REMAIN IN SENIOR HOUSING UNTIL SUITABLE HOUSING IS
OBTAINED.

1 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, multi-generational living is common for
2 cultural, social, and financial reasons; and

3
4 WHEREAS, sometimes due to unforeseen circumstances or
5 family crisis beyond their control, grandparents become
6 caregivers, and in some cases legal guardian, of their
7 grandchildren; and

8
9 WHEREAS, according to the American Association of Retired
10 Persons, in 2007, more than fourteen thousand grandparents in
11 Hawaii reported that they are responsible for grandchildren who
12 live with them; and

13
14 WHEREAS, because many grandparents are seniors who have
15 limited or fixed incomes, trying to raise a grandchild increases
16 an already challenging financial situation for these
17 grandparents; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the cost of raising a child in the western region
20 of the United States, based on 2007 estimates by the United
21 States Department of Agriculture, ranges between \$8,870 and
22 \$18,510 annually; and

23
24 WHEREAS, Hawaii's housing market is one of the costliest in
25 the nation, providing few options for seniors who often have
26 limited incomes; and

27
28 WHEREAS, many seniors look to senior housing programs
29 because the unique restrictions on these programs make such
30 housing more affordable; and



1
 2 WHEREAS, federal and state law both allow housing
 3 authorities to legally exclude families with children from
 4 senior housing programs; and
 5

6 WHEREAS, consequently, grandparents, as sole or primary
 7 caregivers of a grandchild, must compete with other younger
 8 parents for affordable family housing because children are not
 9 allowed to reside in senior housing; now, therefore,
 10

11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 12 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 13 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that all public and private
 14 senior housing agencies are requested to identify all residents
 15 who are sole or primary caretakers for a grandchild; and
 16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each agency is requested to
 18 make appropriate exemptions in policies, procedures, and house
 19 rules to allow seniors who provide sole or primary care for one
 20 or more grandchildren to remain in their rental unit until more
 21 suitable housing is obtained; and
 22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
 25 Services, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing
 26 Authority, the Executive Director of the Office on Aging, the
 27 Hawaii Field Office Director of the United States Department of
 28 Housing and Urban Development, and the Executive Director of the
 29 American Association of Retired Persons.
 30
 31
 32

OFFERED BY:

Tom Brower
John M. Nagano
Raymond H. ...
Karen ...

Mary B. Lee
Subaru Marmoto
Lyle B. Berg
Guthrie Thelen
Debra A. Belatti
Mark H. ...
D.C. ...